B.C. Electric Employee Defends 'Whipping Boy'

Delegates who make the B.C. Electric the "whipping boy" were taken to task at Wednesday night's Victoria Labor Council meeting by office employees' representative Al Playfair.

"Get out and whip some of the others for a change," said Mr. Playfair. "I hold no particular brief for BCE, but the price of food has gone up, and the price of drugs, just as utilities cost more today."

"Any time the BCE doesn't want to be the whipping boy of labor, let it turn over the utilities to public ownership," said IWA delegate Ed Haw.

Bid for Lots Rejected As Too Low

City council's lands committee yesterday recommended rejection of a $3,000 offer from the Victoria Italian Assistance Centre for two lots on Bay, because the offer was below the city's listed price of $4,000.

Work Known Across Canada

CBC to Perform City Man's Opera

Almost nine years ago, in a Paris conservatory, John Beckwith of Victoria waited nervously while his teacher carefully looked over the composition he had just handed her.

When she had finished, she turned to him and smiled, "Ah, I see that you are a composer."

Time has proved the famous Nadia Boulanger correct. Victorians will have an opportunity to judge for themselves when Mr. Beckwith's first opera, "The Night Blooming Cereus," is presented March 4 on the CBC's regular Wednesday night radio series.

JOHN BECKWITH

Son of Mrs. H. A. Beckwith, 1149 Oliver Street, John became interested in music at the tender age of four. His parents immediately started him taking piano lessons and in later years his natural ability enabled him to win many awards in Island music festivals.

He attended Monterey Elementary and Oak Bay High Schools and then went on to Victoria College.

Later through a series of scholarships he graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Music degree.

But it was the $1,000 scholarship to Paris that finally decided him on a career in music.

Many of his compositions, (though he is only 30 he has completed 18), have been performed all across Canada.

He is at present on the staff of the Toronto Conservatory of Music where he teaches history and composition. He is a part-time music critic for the Toronto Globe and Mail, and on the editorial staff of the Canadian Music Journal.

Dice Rattle Again in Cuba

HAVANA (AP) — The click of roulette wheels and the rattle of rolling dice came back to Havana today for foreign tourists and well-to-do Cubans.

Fidel Castro's revolutionary regime added a little glitter to its reform program by taking the padlocks off the doors of the plush gambling casinos. But poorer Cubans still were barred from the tables because "popular" casinos where small sums were bet will stay closed.

The multi-million-dollar industry that enriched fallen dictator Fulgencio Batista and many American racketeers resumes in 11 big Havana casinos. The revolutionary regime promised strict government control.

Casinos were opened for the sake of the tourist trade and to quiet the thousands of casino employees who had been unemployed for seven weeks.

Under Batista, the casinos paid a $25,000 licensing fee and a percentage of their profit to the government.

Premier Castro has laid down a new set of rules designed to root out the racketeers and enrich the nation's treasury.

The reopening casinos must have new operators with financial standing and no criminal records.

The operators also must pay the casino employees their wages for the seven weeks they have been idle.

Foreigners who are lucky must declare their winnings at the Cuban national bank. They will pay a two per cent tax for a permit to take their winnings out of Cuba.

Police Powerless

Racketeers Run Toronto Clubs

TORONTO (CP) — Police Chief James Mackey said Wednesday night "gamblers, racketeers, thieves and receivers" are raking in money behind the protection of provincial charters granted to clubs whose original owners have since lost control.

The chief, taking part in a University of Toronto panel whose members included Attorney-General Roberts, said later police know where some of the clubs are and have a hunch about others. However, he added, they can't act because they have no evidence.

"These clubs are full of gamblers, racketeers, thieves and receivers," Chief Mackey told the panel. "The only reason they are in there is for easy money" from big-time gambling.

He said the only way police can gather evidence is to infiltrate a man into the club and if possible, work him onto the board of directors.

In his comments afterward, he said this procedure takes "a lot of time."

TRACTOR SALES SOAR

North American domestic sales by Massey-Ferguson Limited in the quarter ending Jan. 31 were $35,000,000 higher than in the corresponding period of the previous year. This represented an increase of 75 per cent.

Metro Plan Past Hurdle

QUEBEC CITY (UPI) — The private bills committee of the Quebec legislature last night unanimously adopted the long-mooted creation of a metropolitan type of government for Greater Montreal.

Under the plan, the municipal councils of the Island of Montreal now under the jurisdiction of the Montreal Metropolitan Commission will cease to exist as governing bodies.

Timed Run Over 105 Miles

Reliability Driving Trial Open to Any Motorist

Hot rods and stock cars will compete in a 100-mile timed run Sunday.

The reliability trial over a course to be announced at the start, will be held by the RPM Rod and Custom Car Club. The trial is open to any member of the public with a car.

The route has been carefully checked twice by officials and an average time worked out for the course.

Winner of the contest will be the driver who comes closest to the prescribed time, without going under it. Secret checkpoints have been arranged, to make sure nobody exceeds the speed limit or takes a short cut.

Winner will get $15, second $10 and third $5. Engraved dashboard plaques will go to the four best drivers.

Anyone wishing to take part should be at the supermarket parking lot at Tillicum and Burnside by 12.30 p.m. to register. Information can be obtained from Stewart Conarroe at EV 3-1936.

Additional Musical Honors List

Royal Conservatory of Toronto yesterday released a further list of successful candidates in examinations held recently in Victoria.

(List of piano, violin, saxophone and trombone results were published Thursday in the Colonist.)

Grade 5 Theory—Counter-part, pass, Clara-Mary Chapman. Form, first class honors, Elise Spratt. Honors, Judith M. Andrews.

Grade 4 Theory — Harmony, pass, Aletha L. Stelck. Counterpoint, honors, Mary E. Goward.

Grade 3 Theory—Harmony and history, honors, Linda A. Stephens. Harmony, pass, Elizabeth Mahaffy; Keith H. Donaldson. History, first class honors, Karen Dickson; Valerie I. Watkin. Honors, Margaret I. McEwen; Karen Troop. Pass, Janice E. Hickman, Patricia M. Evans; Eric H. Carlsen and Laurence Devlin (equal); Joan M. Fisher.

Grade 2 Theory—First class honors, Ann Craig and Glenda P. Kaiser (equal); Judy Flach; Martha J. Daysmith, Barbara Hudson and Sylvia Reinhard (equal); Hazel C. Craig; Janis Quebec; Michael Fairweather and David Goodenough (equal); Cornelia Aalhuizen, Glenna Allen and Mary Phelps (equal); Joan M. McFarland and Caroline Overman (equal). Honors, Joan A. Saxon; Marion L. Espip; Stephanie Sam; Mary Ann Belmont. Pass, Erik Lythgoe.

Grade 1 Theory—First class honors, Alison L. Daysmith and Lorraine Elliott (equal); Ian Wickett, Velma Ko, Susan L. Pears and Sandra M. Pennington (equal); Elizabeth A. Armitage.

PNE Stock Coliseum Assured Big Grant

VANCOUVER (CP) — Mayor Tom Alsbury said Thursday he has been assured the federal government will make a maximum grant of $200,000 toward a livestock coliseum at the Pacific National Exhibition grounds.

NOW SHOWING "THE BRAVADOES"
A really big western drama in CinemaScope and gorgeous color. A powerfully motivated and suspenseful plot. Starring Gregory Peck, who doffs his grey flannel suit for his boots and saddle, and lovely Joan Collins.
Doors 6.30
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Musical Comedy in Color
Starring FRANK SINATRA, KIM NOVAK, RITA HAYWORTH
Film Cartoon and Short
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Tillicum OUTDOOR THEATRE
At 7.00 and 10.00
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"PORTLAND EXPOSE"
Adult Entertainment Only
Also at 8.30
ALAN LADD - JOAN TETZEL
"HELL BELOW ZERO"
TECHNICOLOR
Prices—Adults 75c
Students (with Parents) 25c
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New gate-opening time

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Color
GENE KELLY - NATALIE WOOD

USED CAR? MORRISON
CHEVROLET - OLDSMOBILE
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At 2.13, 4.43, 7.12, 9.42
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At 1.00, 3.31, 5.59, 8.30
TODAY AND SAT.
Feature at 2.13, 4.44, 7.12, 9.43. Last complete show 8.30 p.m.
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Naden 11.30-1.30 p.m.
Beginners 1.30-2.30 p.m.
Public Skating 4.00-6.00 p.m.
Beginners 4.00-6.00 p.m.
Minor Hockey 6.00-7.00 p.m.
Public Skating 8.00-10.00 p.m.
Tyson Con. 10.00-11.00 p.m.
Cantina Trans. 11.00-12.00 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEB. 20
Minor Hockey 7.00-8.30 p.m.
Naden 11.30-1.30 p.m.
Patch Session 3.30-5.00 p.m.
V.F.S.C. 5.00-7.00 p.m.
V.F.S.C. Rehearsal 7.30-8.00 p.m.
Student Jamb. 8.00-10.00 p.m.
Sidney Rec. 10.00-12.00 p.m.

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